

REMARKS

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to claim 1; rejected claims 1, 2 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,680,230 of Arai et al.; and objected to claim 4 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have amended the specification to correct informalities; amended claims 1 and 2; and canceled claim 4. Claims 1-3, and 5-22 remain pending with claims 3 and 6-22 withdrawn from consideration.

In response to the Examiner's objection to claim 1, Applicants have amended claim 1 to clarify the recitation at lines 15-16 as "said plurality of grooves," as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants therefore request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to claim 1.

Applicants traverse the Examiner's rejection of claims 1, 2, and 5 under § 103(a) as obvious over Arai et al. However, to advance prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 4, and canceled claim 4. As a result, claim 1 and claims 2 and 5 that depend therefrom are in condition for allowance.

Applicants also submit that withdrawn claims 3 and 6-13 are in condition for allowance since each of these claims depends either directly or indirectly from allowable claim 1.

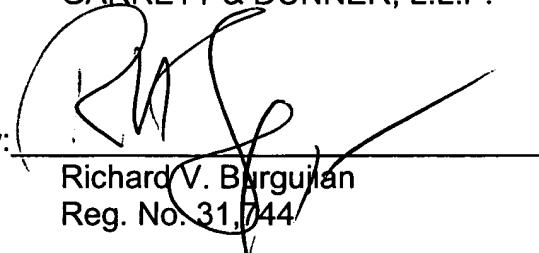
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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